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Thursday
December 11, 1952

Staff meeting. We discussed the various complications that have arisen in connection with EDC ratification in Germany. The unsatisfactory situation in the constitutional court gives us great concern. We are sending a message to Foster Dulles calling his attention to the critical nature of the situation, especially in Germany and France, over the EDC, and asking that I see him on it as early as possible next week. He is in Hawaii with General Eisenhower, but is expected back in New York on Monday.

I talked to Jack Bingham about [redacted] a clash of personalities between members of the Point 4 organization and the Near Eastern Bureau.

We had a meeting in the Secretary's office, attended by Messrs. Hickerson, Fisher and Humelsine, where they discussed their appearance before Senators Ferguson and O'Conor yesterday in New York, to testify on the security relationship between this Department and the UN. This is an involved subject. We made some changes in a draft of a pronouncement covering changes in procedure in this connection.

Joe Flack, the Ambassador to Poland, called on me. He has an offer from the Polish Government of a large plot of [redacted] desirable land in Warsaw as a site for our Embassy residence and chancery. He thinks it would be [redacted] advantageous to take this land and build on it. This would involve the expenditure of several million dollars, to be paid in zlotys out of sums owing to the United States Government by the Polish Government for the liquidation of war surplus property.

Jean Monnet called me from Luxembourg to ask that an appointment be made for him to see Dean in Paris. This has been arranged.

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I was briefed for PSB, and later had lunch with the PSB Board in Bill Foster's office. The following matters were decided:

1. General Smith asked for approval of the program for Southeast Europe activities. All the members of the Board were in favor of this.

2. Admiral Kirk mentioned the status of PSB plans and gave each member a paper entitled "PSB Plans - Delays". No action was required.

3. Mr. Harriman discussed the election to be held late next spring in Italy. There was some discussion of this but no action was necessary.

4. General Smith raised the question of the Rosenberg case, and whether a commutation of sentence by the President should be considered. It was decided [redacted] this would not be advisable.

5. Regarding the Chinese internal refugees in Hong Kong, it was the opinion of the Board that nothing should be done about this.

6. Regarding the selection of specific factories in France and Italy for off-shore procurement, this matter is under study by the JCS, and there shortly will be a reply to General Smith's letter to Mr. Foster.

Leslie Cheek, the Director of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, came to see me. We talked about my proposed gift of china to the Museum.

The Austrian Ambassador called to urge [redacted] we do everything possible to see that the item on the Austrian Treaty be considered by the UN before it recesses or adjourns just before Christmas. This we are [redacted] anxious to do.

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The UN is still debating the Tunisian issue. Meanwhile, there has been bloody rioting in Tunisia and Morocco.

We had dinner tonight at the Portuguese Embassy. It was [redacted] enjoyable.

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